

# MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

D-402

C4624B08

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Zion United Methodist Church

### 2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

612 Locust Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

COUNTY

Dorchester

### 3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER

### 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Trustees of Zion United Methodist Church Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

### 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER

206 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland 21613

### 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

\_\_\_ FEDERAL \_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

D-402

**CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☐ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☐ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This large church, rebuilt after 1950, is a simplified version of Gothic architecture. Constructed of granite, it consists of a gabled nave with rectangular towers at three corners and an adjoining educational building to the east of this, which is three stories high. The tallest tower, on the northwest corner, houses the church bells, and has an arched entrance on two sides. The Gothic style stained glass windows are tall and narrow with pointed arches.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES Rebuilt after 1950

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

History:

The original Zion Church stood on the corner of Mill and Church Streets (now 312 Mill Street, the home of Levi Phillips, Jr.) from 1802 until 1846 and was known as Garrettson's Chapel. It was named for Rev. Freeborn Garrettson who preached the first Methodist sermon in Dorchester County in 1779 at the home of Squire Airey near Salem, Maryland, for which he was arrested and imprisoned in the old Cambridge Jail.

Five Methodist Societies were organized in 1780 at private homes in Dorchester County. By 1800, the Methodist Society in Cambridge was in need of a regular meeting place and began plans for the erection of a chapel. Garrettson Chapel, a two story building, was completed in 1802. It was later known as Zion Chapel. By 1845, the Chapel had outgrown its building on Church Street, and a new church was begun on Race Street. The old Zion Chapel was sold in 1846 and moved across the street, where it was later used as a carriage shop. The new Zion Church on Race Street was the first stone church in Cambridge. Remodeled in 1881, this granite structure with a gabled nave, had a 166 foot tower and spire on the front and Gothic stained glass windows. In 1910, a fire destroyed Zion Methodist Church, as well as a large area of the business section on Race Street. The Trustees of Zion Church promptly purchased a lot on the corner of Locust and Mill Streets and began the erection of a new Zion Church. The cornerstone was laid in 1911. In 1950, however, Zion Methodist Church was destroyed by fire a second time. Following a period of fund raising, the drawings of registered church architects, Giffin and Fink of Philadelphia, were approved by the building committee and the low bid of Charles E. Brohawn and Bros. was approved by the congregation. The first phase of reconstruction was the Educational Building, and later in 1956, the building of the sanctuary began. The new church is a large modified Gothic Revival structure constructed of steel and concrete with granite walls.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Hooper, Mrs. Granville - History of Zion Methodist Church,  
Cambridge, Md. - 1780-1973

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Catherine L. Moore

ORGANIZATION

DATE

12/9/75

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

Route 3, Box 32

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

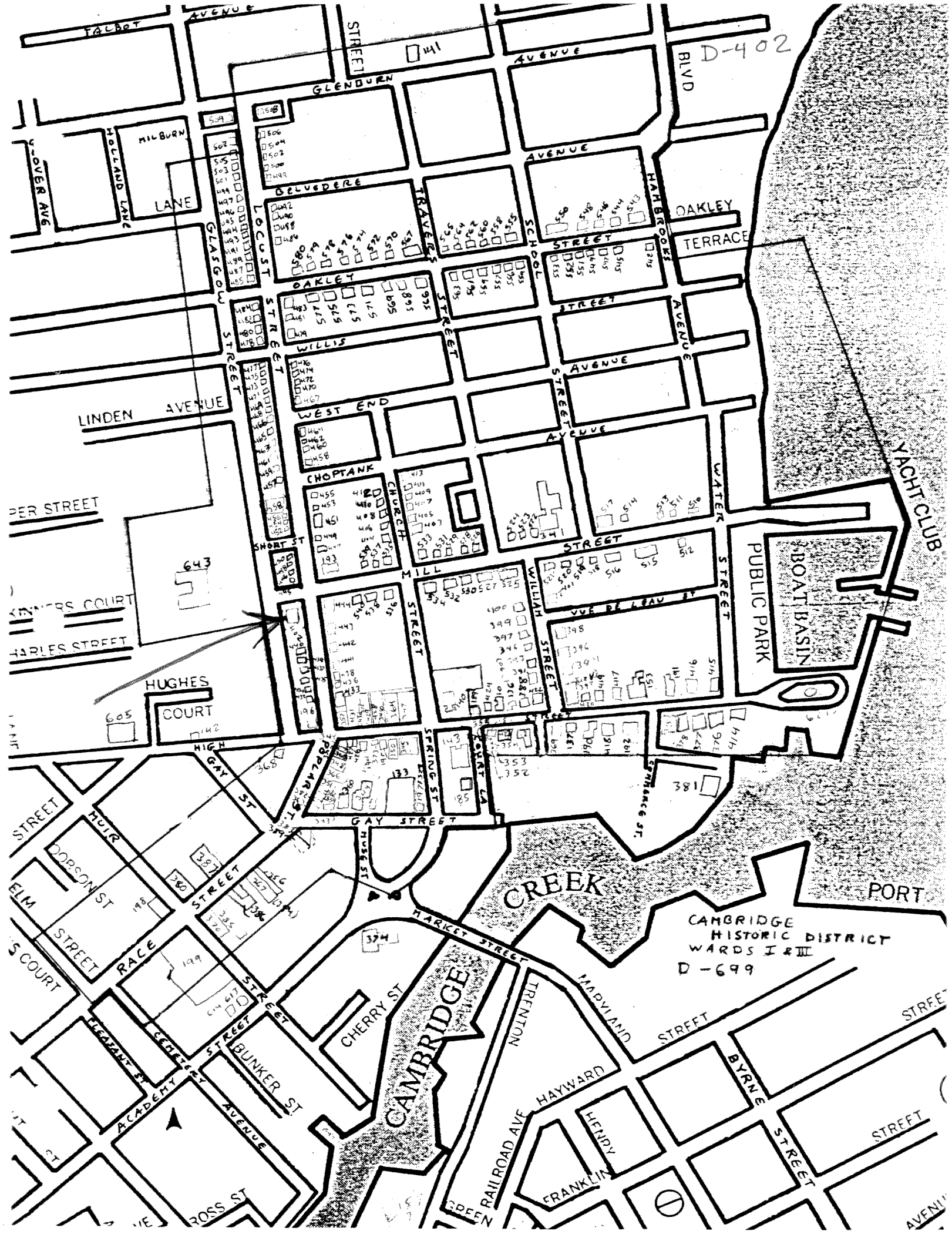
Cambridge

Maryland 21613

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438





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C.L. Moore  
1976